

God. Take a moment and compose a prayer that would lead you to a deeper knowledge of God and pray for that which you can honestly say is in full alignment with God's will. Write your prayer here; it doesn't have to be long, just authentic. Contemplate the power of prayer as you compose your prayer.

Thursday, May 16

The third element of building a bridge of trust is surrender. As mentioned during the message, surrender doesn't mean giving up but rather making yourself available to hearing God's answer to our prayers and the actions that God would want us to take in response to God's guidance. The fact that the Hebrew words for trust, *betach* and *bittachon*, mean to lie prostrate in front of God brings up the idea of different body positions during prayer. You don't have to lie down on your stomach facing the floor, but perhaps you might outstretch your arms as you pray or hold your hands palm up as if to anticipate receiving God's blessing. What does surrender mean to you? What changes in your life would you anticipate in surrendering your will to God's will? Contemplate these questions and write your responses here.

Friday, May 17

The message ended with a call to action in response to the process of questioning, praying and surrendering. For three days you have examined this "blueprint" to building a bridge of trust with God. What actions do you believe God is asking of you? What changes in your life would you have to make to implement those actions? What impact would you expect from your actions? Remember the story with which Pastor Jack ended the message: If you pray, fast and work toward receiving the blessing of rain, don't forget your umbrella! Write your responses here.

Message Notes – May 12, 2024

*Ever Wonder Why? Why Should I Trust God?**

- I. We're dealing with a series of questions that have required _____, disciplined thinking and _____ to answer.
 - A. Why did God let it happen? How can a _____ God send people to _____? Why doesn't God answer my prayers?
 - B. Let consider this thought, if not God, _____ or _____ do we trust?
 - a. We put our trust in _____; I trust that my car will start when I turn the key.
 - b. I trust the _____ that I cross when driving my car.
 - C. Building a bridge between ourselves and God is _____ for us to trust our God.
- II. Have you ever felt like your life is an ongoing series of _____?
 - A. Psalm 20 was written by King David when he was actually preparing for _____.
 1. This Psalm is a combination of _____ and _____ for the King David's army.
 2. Verse 7 is "_____ people trust the power of chariots or horses, but we trust you, LORD God."
 - B. How do we _____ a bridge of trust between ourselves and our God?
 - C. Pastor Sam Marin writes, "It's simple, but not easy. You question, you pray, and you surrender."
- III. Let's look at this _____ idea of building a bridge of trust between God and ourselves.
 - A. First is _____.

*Psalm 20:1-9 and Romans 8:26-39

B. Second is _____.

C. Third is _____.

- IV. The Hebrew words *betach* and *bittachon* that we translate as trust express a sense of well-being and _____ that results from placing confident _____ in God.
- A. It literally means to stretch out, to lie _____ before God.
 - B. It means to be vulnerable and waiting for God's _____ for our lives.
 - C. It certainly doesn't mean to be _____, but rather _____ seek God's guidance.
 - D. Trust and faith in God must always be matched by _____.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, May 13

Read Psalm 20:1-9. Remember from the message that King David wrote this Psalm as he and his army prepared for battle. David prays for protection and victory toward the end of the Psalm, David proclaims his trust in the Lord. It is as if he is saying that first, a person must have trust in the Lord before

placing trust in chariots and horses. In what do you place your greatest trust? Sure you trust your parents, spouse and maybe even your children, boss and pastor. In what things do you put your trust? But do you place your greatest trust in them? What role does your trust in God play in your daily life? How would you define the word "trust?" Contemplate these questions and write your reflections here.

Tuesday, May 14

Read Romans 8:26-39. This passage offers beautiful words about God's love for each and every one of us and yet there are times when we feel that life is full of challenges and battles. What challenges and battles are you facing in these days? Pastor Sam Marin said that in order to build trust in God we should question, pray and surrender. Do the challenges you face cause you to doubt in God? Do you question God's goodness? How comfortable are you in questioning God? What are your questions for God? Can you embrace the idea that questioning God can lead to greater and deeper faith? Contemplate these questions and write your ideas here as you pray for God's patience and ever-present love.

Wednesday, May 15

Read Psalm 20:1-9. Read this Psalm as a prayer today. Change the words to make Psalm 20 more personal; for example you could say verse 4 as, "Grant to me your heart's desire, And fulfill all thy counsel to me." You may remember Pastor Jack's advice to pray boldly, however, end your prayer by praying for God's will. Remember always that prayer is relational and the purpose

of prayer is not to get something from God but rather to get to know